

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A method of measuring a fixed volume of liquid comprising:  
providing a gas or vapor permeable but liquid impermeable barrier in a  
first barrel having a proximal end and a distal end;  
inserting the distal end into a sample comprising liquid fluid;  
creating a negative pressure on the proximal end;  
transferring the liquid fluid from the sample into the first barrel, wherein  
the first barrel comprises at least one reactant; and  
reacting the at least one reactant with the sample.
2. The method of claim 1, wherein the first barrel comprises a first reactant and  
a second reactant.
3. The method of claim 1 further comprising adjusting the position of the  
barrier in the first barrel.
4. The method of claim 1, wherein the barrier is part of a coupling device and  
the method further comprises adapting the coupling device to the barrel.
5. The method of claim 4, wherein said adapting comprises inserting the  
coupling device into the barrel.
6. The method of claim 1, wherein the barrel further comprises a valve at the  
distal end and the method further comprises opening and/or closing the valve.
7. The method of claim 1, wherein the first barrel further comprises a needle on  
the distal end and the method further comprises inserting the needle into the sample.
8. The method of claim 1 further comprising transferring the sample from the  
first barrel to a second barrel, wherein said first barrel is in fluid communication with  
the second barrel by means of a valve, wherein the first barrel comprises a first reactant  
and the second barrel comprises a second reactant.
9. The method of claim 1, wherein at least one reactant is selected from the  
group consisting of a salt of bisulfite, a salt of cyanide, hydrazine, hydroxylamine, an  
amine, and combinations thereof.
10. A device for testing the level of an analyte comprising:  
a first barrel having a proximal and distal end;

a gas or vapor permeable but liquid impermeable barrier situated in the barrel between the proximal and distal ends;

a retainer on the distal end; and

at least one chemical reactive with the analyte in the first barrel between the retainer and the barrier.

11. The method of claim 10, wherein the first barrel comprises a first reactant and a second reactant.

12. The device of claim 10, wherein the analyte is an aldehyde.

13. The device of claim 12, wherein the aldehyde is either OPA or glutaraldehyde.

14. The device of claim 10, further comprising a means for adjusting the position of said barrier, whereby liquid can only be filled up to the barrier so as to measure a fixed volume of the liquid.

15. The device of claim 10, which further comprises a coupling device to adapt the barrier to the testing device.

16. The device of claim 15, wherein the coupling device comprises an insert.

17. The device of claim 16, wherein the insert is adjustable to position the barrier.

18. The device of claim 15, further comprising a holder to position and secure the coupling device in the testing device.

19. The device of claim 17, further comprising a screw for adjusting the position of the insert.

20. The device of claim 10, which further comprises a second barrel which is in fluid communication with said first barrel by means of a valve.

21. The device of claim 10, further comprising a needle at the distal end.

22. The device of claim 16, wherein said insert is H-shaped in cross-sectional view.

23. The device of claim 16, wherein said insert is U-shaped in cross-sectional view.

24. The device of claim 10, wherein said retainer comprises a valve.

25. The device of claim 10, wherein said gas or vapor permeable but liquid impermeable barrier comprises hydrophobic material.

26. The device of claim 10, wherein said first barrel comprises at least one reactant selected from the group consisting of a salt of bisulfite, a salt of cyanide, hydrazine, hydroxylamine, an amine, and combinations thereof.

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